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IN THE CLAIMS

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Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently amended) Fixing device for a cover of a surface drainage device, comprising
said cover and a body adapted to be embedded in the ground and defining an upper rim on which said cover can be placed,
first fixing elements provided on said cover and second fixing elements provided on said body that can be brought into snapping engagement with one another to lock said cover to said body, and
at least one of said first fixing elements and said second fixing elements comprising at least one damping section defining a contact surface between said cover and said body such that when said cover is locked to said body said cover is spaced apart from said upper rim of said body~~[[.]] Fixing device according to Claim 1~~, wherein said second fixing elements each comprise at least one said damping section that is constructed as a first protrusion with reference to the an upper surface level of said upper rim such that said first protrusion extends in a direction perpendicular to a long direction of said upper rim.
3. (Currently amended) Fixing device for a cover of a surface drainage device, comprising
said cover and a body adapted to be embedded in the ground and defining an upper rim on which said cover can be placed,
first fixing elements provided on said cover and second fixing elements provided on said body that can be brought into snapping engagement with one another to lock said

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cover to said body, and
at least one of said first fixing elements and said second fixing elements comprising at
least one damping section defining a contact surface between said cover and said body
such that when said cover is locked to said body said cover is spaced apart from said
upper rim of said body[[.]] ~~Fixing device according to Claim 1,~~ wherein said first fixing
elements each comprise at least one said damping section that is constructed as a second
protrusion with reference to the level of a surface of said cover that faces toward said
body such that said second protrusion extends in a direction perpendicular to a long
direction of said cover.

4. (Currently amended) Fixing device according to Claim 1, wherein said first
fixing elements and said second fixing elements are each formed so as to be captive
respectively within said body and on said cover.

5. (Currently amended) Fixing device according to Claim 1, wherein said first
fixing elements and said second fixing elements are constructed so as to be substantially
complementary to one another.

6. (Currently Amended) Fixing device according to Claim 1, wherein said first
fixing elements are constructed as peg-like fixing elements.

7. (Previously presented) Fixing device according to Claim 6, wherein said
peg-shaped fixing elements each comprise at least one lug-like projection.

8. (Currently Amended) Fixing device for a cover of a surface drainage device,
comprising
said cover and a body adapted to be embedded in the ground and defining an
upper rim on which said cover can be placed,
first fixing elements provided on said cover and second fixing elements provided
on said body that can be brought into snapping engagement with one another to lock said
cover to said body, and

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at least one of said first fixing elements and said second fixing elements comprising at least one damping section defining a contact surface between said cover and said body such that when said cover is locked to said body said cover is spaced apart from said upper rim of said body~~[[.]] Fixing device according to Claim 1,~~ wherein said second fixing elements each define a cavity adapted to receive said first fixing elements.

9. (Currently Amended) Fixing device according to Claim 1 2, wherein at least one of said first fixing elements and said second fixing elements are elastically deformable.

10. (Currently Amended) Fixing device according to Claim 1 2, wherein at least one of said first fixing elements and said second fixing elements are made of at least one of a spring steel and an elastomer.

11. (Currently Amended) Fixing device for a cover of a surface drainage device, comprising

said cover and a body adapted to be embedded in the ground and defining an upper rim on which said cover can be placed,

first fixing elements provided on said cover and second fixing elements provided on said body that can be brought into snapping engagement with one another to lock said cover to said body, and

at least one of said first fixing elements and said second fixing elements comprising at least one damping section defining a contact surface between said cover and said body such that when said cover is locked to said body said cover is spaced apart from said upper rim of said body ~~Fixing device according to Claim 1,~~ wherein said second fixing elements each comprise at least one lug-like projection.

12. (Currently Amended) Fixing device for a cover of a surface drainage device, comprising

said cover and a body adapted to be embedded in the ground and defining an upper rim on which said cover can be placed,

first fixing elements provided on said cover and second fixing elements provided

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on said body that can be brought into snapping engagement with one another to lock said cover to said body, and

at least one of said first fixing elements and said second fixing elements comprising at least one damping section defining a contact surface between said cover and said body such that when said cover is locked to said body said cover is spaced apart from said upper rim of said body ~~Fixing device according to Claim 11, wherein said~~ second fixing elements each comprise at least one lug-like projection[[.]] wherein a first said lug-like projection is disposed so as to form a clamp with respect to a second said lug-like projection.

13. (Currently Amended) Fixing device for a cover of a surface drainage device, comprising

said cover and a body adapted to be embedded in the ground and defining an upper rim on which said cover can be placed,

first fixing elements provided on said cover and second fixing elements provided on said body that can be brought into snapping engagement with one another to lock said cover to said body, and

at least one of said first fixing elements and said second fixing elements comprising at least one damping section defining a contact surface between said cover and said body such that when said cover is locked to said body said cover is spaced apart from said upper rim of said body ~~Fixing device according to Claim 11, wherein said~~ second fixing elements each comprise at least one lug-like projection[[.]] wherein said at least one lug-like projection extends in a direction parallel to a long direction of the body.

14. (Currently Amended) Fixing device for a cover of a surface drainage device, comprising

said cover and a body adapted to be embedded in the ground and defining an upper rim on which said cover can be placed,

first fixing elements provided on said cover and second fixing elements provided on said body that can be brought into snapping engagement with one another to lock said

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cover to said body, and

at least one of said first fixing elements and said second fixing elements comprising at least one damping section defining a contact surface between said cover and said body such that when said cover is locked to said body said cover is spaced apart from said upper rim of said body ~~Fixing device according to Claim 8, wherein said~~ second fixing elements each comprise at least one lug-like projection[[.]] wherein said at least one lug-like projection extends perpendicular to a long direction of the body.

15. (Currently Amended) Fixing device according to Claim 1 2, wherein said first fixing elements each have a flat shape.

16. (Currently Amended) Fixing device according to Claim 8, wherein a height of said first fixing element perpendicular to a long direction of said body is dimensioned such that, when said cover is locked to said body, said first fixing element bears against a floor defined by said cavity of said second fixing element and said locked cover is spaced apart from said ~~the~~ upper rim of said ~~the~~ body.

17. (Currently Amended) Fixing device according to Claim 1 8, wherein said body defines opposing walls and said second fixing elements are each disposed in said opposite walls directly opposite to one another.

18. (Currently Amended) Fixing device according to Claim 1 8, wherein said body defines opposing walls and said second fixing elements are each disposed in said opposite walls so as to be offset from one another.

19. (Currently Amended) Fixing device for a cover of a surface drainage device, comprising

said cover and a body adapted to be embedded in the ground and defining an upper rim on which said cover can be placed,

first fixing elements provided on said cover and second fixing elements provided on said body that can be brought into snapping engagement with one another to lock said

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cover to said body, and

at least one of said first fixing elements and said second fixing elements comprising at least one damping section defining a contact surface between said cover and said body such that when said cover is locked to said body said cover is spaced apart from said upper rim of said body~~[[.]] Fixing device according to Claim 1,~~ wherein said second fixing elements each define at least one opening directed toward a middle of said body in order that contaminants that may have entered said second fixing elements are ejected into said body during insertion of said first fixing elements therein.